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SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC NOTE ANNOUNCES CHILEAN CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN

¶1. On February 20, Post received Diplomatic Note number 38 dated February 4, from the Ministry of Foreign Relations announcing Chile's candidate for President of the Inter-American Commission of Women. Paragraph 2 contains Post's informal translation of diplomatic note 38.

¶2. The Ministry of Foreign Relations - Multilateral Policy Directorate - presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America, and has the honor to inform the Embassy that the Government of Chile has decided to present the candidacy of Minister Director of the National Service for Women (SERNAM), Mrs. Laura Albornoz, for the Presidency of the Inter-American Commission of Women for the period 2009 - 2010. The elections will be held during the XXXIV Assembly of Commission Delegates in November 2008.

This initiative reflects the commitment of the Government of President Michelle Bachelet, at the global as well as the regional level, with the promotion of gender equality and women's rights, which, in the Government of Chile, finds its concrete expression in the existence of the Ministry of National Service for Women, the State Secretariat charged with implementing government policies towards this end. Within this framework and clearly aware of its commitments, the Government of Chile deems it coherent and opportune to present the candidacy for the presidency of said Commission, of the very person who today is the maximum authority of that Ministry.

Minister Laura Albornoz also possesses an important career in public service, solid legal training and background, and a recognized academic career linked especially to the promotion and protection of human rights.

Chile is especially interested in continuing to work and share experiences on those issues related to the promotion of women's rights, equity, and gender equality. In the framework of the relations of friendship and cooperation that unite our two countries, the Government of Chile solicits the valuable support of the Government of the United States of America for this candidacy. Minister Albornoz's curriculum vitae and a document regarding her candidacy are attached.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations - Directorate of Multilateral Policy - appreciates consideration of this request and avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States of America the assurances of its highest and most distinguished consideration.

Santiago, February 4, 2008

¶3. Attachments are available. Post can fax CV and additional points to the Department if necessary.

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